

This legislation will help thousands of New Yorkers, courageous firefighters, police officers, EMTs and clean-up workers, as well as the thousands of selfless individuals who rushed from every State to lend a hand in the rescue recovery and cleanup efforts at Ground Zero.

Many of them are my constituents, like John Feal, who founded the FealGoodFoundation, which has achieved so much since September 11 to raise awareness and help those who answered the Nation's call upon learning of the attacks on lower Manhattan.

It is imperative that we affirm our commitment to first responders and survivors by ensuring they have access to treatment and care. We should pass this bill as a solemn measure of our indebtedness and to honor these most deserving patriots who sacrificed their health and safety for their fellow Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support this critical legislation.

MEDMAL ACT OF 2010

(Mr. FLEMING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, last month, along with fellow physician Congressman PHIL GINGREY of Georgia, I introduced the MedMal Act of 2010, legislation aimed at enacting a meaningful medical liability reform.

Unlike ObamaCare, this legislation will increase access and lower health care costs for patients, physicians and our government by reducing needless costs incurred because of defensive medicine. Furthermore, this reform will strengthen the doctor-patient relationship by encouraging collaboration between parties when a medical incident occurs.

Repealing ObamaCare and replacing it with patient-centered reforms continues to be our primary goal, a goal that our constituents sent us here to achieve.

Thus we remain committed to passing comprehensive medical liability reform as part of the solution. With a savings of at least \$200 billion annually in defensive medicine costs, there is no reason not to act immediately.

WHAT MEDICINE SHOULD DO WHEN IT CAN'T SAVE YOU

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the current article of the New Yorker magazine has a thoughtful article from Atul Gawande, "What medicine should do when it can't save your life." It focuses on those critical areas of end of life. It deals with fascinating studies that show people who deal, who are in hospice care, rather than the most aggressive medical interventions, actually, in many cases, live as long or in some cases even longer.

But, more important, Madam Speaker, is the notion of control for these patients. The people who have substantive discussions with their doctor about end-of-life preferences were more likely to die at peace and in control of their situation and to spare their families anguish.

This is exactly why I have introduced Personalize Your Care Act, H.R. 5795, to make sure that patients' wishes are observed, that the government helps promote that conversation, and that we allow people to live their lives the way they want to.

KEEP AVONDALE SHIPYARD OPEN

(Mr. ALEXANDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, Northrop Grumman recently announced that they would consolidate and close Avondale Shipyard by 2013. In the midst of economic downturn, the gulf oil spill, the drilling moratorium, layoffs from the NASA shuttle program, the decision to close Avondale will very well have a devastating effect on the State of Louisiana.

We must find a solution to help those 5,000 employees that would be affected. Article I, section 9 of the Constitution states that "no preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one State over those of another."

If Avondale were making cruise ships, then this wouldn't be a Federal jurisdiction. However, as Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding has built over 70 percent of the Navy's fleet, I believe this is the time to exercise some intervention into this consolidation process. We must assist the State in finding alternative issues for Avondale Shipyard in Louisiana.

STAND UP TO WALL STREET

(Mr. WELCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, today, 40 of my colleagues are joining me to call on the Wall Street banks that are continuing to totally disrespect the American taxpayer to do the right thing.

In a report issued last week, compensation master Kenneth Feinberg identified 17 banks which paid out questionable bonuses, questionable in the sense that it was multimillion dollar payments for no good valuable work. These are banks that did this after accepting taxpayer assistance. To make matters worse, six of those 17 firms have yet to pay back the taxpayer money that was the lifeline to keep them going.

When the American public threw the lifeline, it was not for those banks and the benefit of the bankers. It was to stabilize the financial system and revive Main Street.

Why is it that when it comes to compensation on Wall Street, too much is never enough? Today, my colleagues are calling on these banks to put paying back the taxpayer ahead of paying off their executives.

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OPPOSE THE CLEAR ACT

(Mr. HASTINGS of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, instead of directly addressing the gulf oil spill tragedy, Congress is voting this week on legislation, the CLEAR Act, that is stuffed full of unrelated items, legislation that will kill American jobs and raise energy prices.

Simply put, Democrats are using the oil spill as an excuse to raise taxes and increase spending. The bill imposes a new \$22 billion energy tax and has over \$30 billion of new unrelated mandatory spending. What the Democrats are doing, Madam Speaker, is rushing ahead of the facts and writing laws before investigations into the spill are finished.

Reforms are needed to make American offshore drilling the safest in the world, but that doesn't require tax increases or billions of dollars of unrelated spending and inflicting greater economic pain and lost jobs on Americans.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the CLEAR Act.

HAMOT MEDICAL CENTER

(Mrs. DAHLKEMPER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the exemplary health care institution in my district, Hamot Medical Center in Erie, Pennsylvania.

For more than 125 years, western Pennsylvanians have taken advantage of the excellent quality of care at Hamot Medical Center. This week, Hamot Medical Center is being recognized yet again for their high standards of quality and excellent patient care. U.S. News & World Report announced that Hamot Medical Center has been ranked among the top medical facilities in the Nation in the specialty of pulmonary medicine, which treats diseases of the lungs and respiratory tract. U.S. News & World Report's Best Hospitals 2010-11 includes rankings of 152 medical centers nationwide on tough standards of care and the number of patients served, among other factors.

I want to congratulate Hamot Medical Center for its commitment to its patients and to our community. Hamot is truly an asset to my district.